

News from Ed Markey

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AMERICA NEEDS A NEW ECONOMIC MESSAGE, NOT JUST NEW ECONOMIC MESSENGERS

Markey Calls on Bush Admin. To Put American Families Before Wealthy

Washington D.C.— U.S. Representative Edward J. Markey (D-MA), a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, released the following statement on the announcement that the Bush Administration is nominating a new economic team:

"Instead of merely appointing new economic messengers, the Bush Administration needs to re-tool its tired, trickle-down economic message to address the real challenges facing American families today. New political appointments will do little more than rubber stamp a failed economic policy that has been decided upon by this Administration in a policy and political vacuum.

"For months, the Bush Administration has been in a state of denial over the economy. Americans are losing their jobs left and right, but the Bush Administration and the Republican Congress have chosen to ignore the economic hardships of hundreds of thousands of Americans and allow federal unemployment benefits to expire during the holiday season. Instead of focusing on how to bring our economy into recovery now, the Republicans have been wasting their time seeking to permanently extend a budget-busting boondoggle of tax breaks for the rich – some of which do not even become effective for nearly a decade.

"Instead of trying to lock in the fiscal deficit a decade from now, we need to address the economic deficiencies of today immediately. We see that unemployment has jumped to 6% nationally – an indication that the Administration's economic policies are continuing to harm middle class families. It's time for the Bush Administration to change course, before our economy slips even deeper into recession."

"The War on Terror and a possible war in Iraq will cost hundreds of billions of dollars. Without a new economic plan, today's announcement does little to help the millions of Americans struggling to find jobs."

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